

FOSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Captain Isaac Paine School
160 Foster Center Road
Foster, RI 02825

Thursday, October 23, 2012
Executive Session – 7:00pm
Open Session – 8:00pm

1. **Convene Meeting** – Kathleen Swanson, Chair, called the meeting of the Foster School Committee (FSC) to order at 7:03 pm on Tuesday, October 23, 2012.
 - a. *Roll Call* – the following members were present at the time of roll call: Kathleen Swanson, Chair, Shelly Pezza, vice Chair, member, Patricia Fountain attended shortly after the meeting was called to order (7:07 pm), Dr. Davida Irving, Superintendent / Principal, FSC Secretary, Helena McCullough.
 - b. *Pledge of Allegiance* – was recited by everyone in attendance.
2. On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC **voted to go into Executive Session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business referred to in R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation – Educational Support Personnel Contract Negotiations.** Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

The FSC reconvened to Open Session at 7:59 pm.

Mrs. Swanson reported out that in Executive Session the FSC discussed Litigation and the Educational Support Personnel Contract and no votes were taken.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to “Seal” the minutes of Executive Session of October 23, 2012. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

3. **Public Comment** – there was no public comment.

At this point in the meeting Mrs. Swanson, Chair, moved item **#8a New Business, Transportation Routes** on the Agenda for discussion and/or action. Dr. Irving read statement with scenarios, questions and safety concerns about Isthmus Road. Foster Police Chief Coin was in attendance to help with the discussion. A lengthy discussion followed with participation from the FSC and audience. On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to table Transportation Routes until there is more information. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

4. **Building Use Requests** – on a motion by Mrs. Fountain and seconded by Ms. Pezza the FSC approved the following Building Use Requests:
 - September 20th, 2012 for the Foster Recreation Department for Zumba
 - the Gym for October 12th for Foster Recreation for building a Scarecrow
 - Girl Scout Troop #359, the second Thursday of November, January, February, March, & April.

- the cafeteria for the second Friday November to June, Corner Stone Crew 4H Club monthly meetings
- the cafeteria for the first Friday 6-8 pm for Canterling Colts 4h Club

Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

5. **Approval of Minutes** – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC approved the “Sealed” Executive Session Minutes of August 23, 2012. Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-1.

Vote as follows:

Mrs. Swanson – yes

Ms. Pezza – yes

Mrs. Fountain – abstained – she was not present at this meeting.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC approved the Open Session Minutes of August 23, 2012. Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-1.

Vote as follows:

Mrs. Swanson – yes

Ms. Pezza – yes

Mrs. Fountain – abstained – she was not present at this meeting.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC approved the Open Session Minutes of September 27, 2012. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

6. **Approval of Warrants** – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC approved the Warrant dated 9/22/2012 for \$27,928.14. Motion passed.

Vote = 3-0-0.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC approved the Warrant dated October 2, 2012 for \$16, 815.44. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

At this point Mrs. Swanson, Chair, moved **item #7d, Building Use Fees – Review of Costs** for discussion and/or action. Dr. Irving addressed the FSC concerning the costs for building use that pertains to the Swamp Meadow Community Theatre. She asked the FSC to waive the twenty percent (20%) gate fee. Bob Hollis provided the FSC with an information sheet reviewing costs and contributions. Discussion followed. Building Use Policy will be a Future Agenda item.

- a. *Business Manager’s Report* – Dr. Irving reviewed the report with the FSC. The FSC requested legal counsel send any invoices to date.

7. **Old Business (for discussion/action)**

- a. *Residency Cards* – Mrs. Swanson stated that she discussed a “residency” card with the Chief of Police and if this would be a burden on the police department to check every residence the school department submitted and he said that it would. Mrs. Swanson had available for the FSC an affidavit residency form used in the

Town of Burriville. On a motion by Ms. Pezza made a motion to approve the Burriville School Department Affidavit Residency as the FSD residency form moving forward. There was no second, motion failed. On a motion by Mrs. Swanson and seconded by Ms. Pezza, the FSC voted to have Dr. Irving modify the Burriville School Department Affidavit of Residency to have Foster language at the next FSC meeting. Discussion followed. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

- b. *Heating Oil Update* – Joe McGovern also supplied an update that the oil tank was pumped and the inside of the tank cleaned. The tank was certified in good condition (a report to follow); the pressure tested. It's running fine.
- c. *Heating Pipes Update* - Dr. Irving read an update provided by Joe McGovern, maintenance supervisor. Pipes have been installed, joints checked, exposed and unexposed pipes insulated, control valves installed and electrical updated in the fifth grade wing, hallways and office areas. This item was discussed before the Heating Oil Update.
- d. *Building Use Fees – Review of Costs* – this item was moved up on the agenda.

8. New Business (for discussion/action)

- a. *Transportation Routes* – this item was moved up on the agenda.
- b. *Business Manager Search* – Dr. Irving supplies the FSC with information on seven candidates for the Business Manager position. She used School Spring as the venue for advertising and applying for the position. On a motion by Mrs. Swanson and seconded by Ms. Pezza, the FSC voted to approve the Superintendent inquiring about Kelly Russ, Foster Town Treasurer, as interim Business Manager for the FSD. Discussion followed. Motions were withdrawn. On a motion by Mrs. Swanson and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to authorize Dr. Irving to inquire with Kelly Russ if she is interested in serving as interim business manager and to confirm with RIDE if it's possible to do that or if she needs to have her Business Manager certificate in place with RIDE. Discussion followed. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
- c. *Retirements* – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC approved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the retirement request of Barbara Murray, Grade two (2) teacher with congratulations and thanks. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
- d. *Appointments* – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC voted to approve the Superintendent's request to reappoint Dr. Lorraine Bowen our Educator Evaluation Coordinator for no more than ninety (90) days during the 2012-2013 academic year. Discussion followed. Motion failed. Vote = 0-3-0.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to stop all services of Dr. Bowen as of immediately. Discussion followed. Motion failed. Vote = 1-2-0.

Vote as follows:

Mrs. Swanson – no

Ms. Pezza – no – does not want to violate a contract.

Mrs. Fountain – yes – voting for eliminating the position, not the individual.

- e. *NECAPs* – on a motion by Mrs. Fountain and seconded by Ms. Pezza, the FSC voted to table this item. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
- f. *Foster and Gloucester Elementary Curriculum Coordination* – on a motion by Mrs. Fountain and seconded by Ms. Pezza, the FSC voted to table this item. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
- g. *Parent Involvement Policy #10000 – Re-approval* – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC voted to re-approve the Parent Involvement Policy 10000. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

9. Communication/Reports

- a. *Correspondence* – there is no correspondence.
- b. *Superintendent's Report* – Dr. Irving reported that the Teacher evaluations are underway; technology is being evaluated for P.A.R.K.; waiting to hear from Carolyn Dias, from RIDE, concerning a state grant for wireless internet in the school; Ocean State Transit will be working with the Kindergarten students on bus safety on Oct. 24, 2012; Nov. 13th, 2012 will be a full day of Professional Development.
- c. *Future Agenda Items*
 - a. Budget workshop - Swanson
 - b. Contracts entered into by another school committee on behalf of this school committee, i.e. – Sodexo – Fountain
 - c. Recap – building use fees, workers comp, legal fees, transportation routes, appointments, NECAP, & F/G Elementary Curriculum Coordination.

10. Adjournment – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC adjourned at 10:06 pm. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Helena McCullough
Secretary Foster School Committee